

OHURA
Serial No. 10/660,788

Atty Dkt: 4059-14
Art Unit: 3611

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A motorcycle comprising:

a seat which can be opened upward and closed, the seat comprising: a seat bottom plate; ~~a seat cushion for covering the top of the seat bottom plate; and, a seat cloth for covering the surface of the seat cushion;~~

a storage box having an upper opening which is opened and closed by the seat and which is able to hold helmets;

a seat bottom plate extension integrally formed with the seat bottom plate, the seat bottom plate extension being extensionally formed along ~~the~~ an outer periphery, spreading outwardly toward its distal side;

a sealing element disposed between ~~the~~ an upper opening brim of the storage box and the seat bottom plate extension;

a cover arranged over the outer peripheral surface of the seat bottom plate extension so as to externally enclose an upper part of the storage box having the sealing element disposed thereon and the seat bottom plate extension;

wherein the storage box has a volume capable of storing at least two helmets and is shaped into a storage compartment which can keep the two helmets placed side by side across the vehicle's a vehicle width with their spherical tops of the helmets set laterally outward with respect to the body-vehicle width, their lower sides of the helmets abutted abutting to each other, and their fronts of the helmets being oriented set forwards forwardly with respect to the vehicle's a direction of travel, the storage box having an inner shape congruent with outer shapes of the helmets thus arranged; and

the storage box being arranged so that an extra rider, riding astride above the storage box, is seated with ankles positioned at a front side of the helmets.

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2. (Original) The motorcycle according to claim 1, wherein the seat is integrally formed with a rib-like structure, projected outwards from the seat bottom plate and disposed along the outer periphery of the seat cushion around the seat bottom plate extension and the rib-like structure together with the seat cushion is covered by the seat cloth with the distal part of the seat cloth fixed by fasteners.

3. (Currently Amended) The motorcycle according to claim 1, wherein the storage box is constructed in such a manner that two helmets can be held side by side across the body-vehicle width with spherical tops inclined downwards and laterally outward with respect to the vehicle body width.

4. (Original) The motorcycle according to claim 2, wherein the storage box is constructed in such a manner that two helmets can be held side by side across the vehicle body-width with spherical tops inclined downwards and laterally outward with respect to the vehicle body-width.

5. (Withdrawn) A storage box arrangement for use in a motorcycle comprising: a seat which can be opened upward and closed; a storage box whose upper opening is opened and closed by the seat and which is able to hold helmets, the surround of the storage box is enclosed by the body cover, characterized in that, in the sectional configuration cut across the vehicle's width, the storage box is shaped so that it spreads outwardly as it extends downwards from the opening edge of the upper opening, along the body cover which encloses the outer vehicle body below the seat while part of the opening edge of the upper opening on a first side with respect to the body width is shaped in a bay-like form so as to be sunken lower than the height of the opening edge on the opposite side.

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6. (Withdrawn) The storage box arrangement for use in a motorcycle according to claim 5, wherein the storage box is constructed so that the distance from the approximate center of the luggage compartment to the opening edge on the first side is greater than the distance to the opening edge on the opposite side and the opening edge on the first side with respect to the vehicle width is positioned so that the opening width is approximately equal to the maximum width of the luggage storing compartment.

7. (Withdrawn) The storage box arrangement for use in a motorcycle according to claim 5, wherein the storage box is constructed so that the opening edge on the first side is formed on the side opposite to a kickstand which is arranged on one side with respect to vehicle's width.

8. (Withdrawn) The storage box arrangement for use in a motorcycle according to claim 6, wherein the storage box is constructed so that the opening edge on the first side is formed on the side opposite to a kickstand which is arranged on one side with respect to vehicle's width.

9. (Withdrawn) The storage box arrangement for use in a motorcycle according to claim 7, wherein the storage box is constructed so that the opening edges on both sides are adapted to be set approximately horizontal when the motorcycle is parked in a position tilted to one side with the kickstand set down.

10. (Withdrawn) The storage box arrangement for use in a motorcycle according to claim 8, wherein the storage box is constructed so that the opening edges on both sides are adapted to be set approximately horizontal when the motorcycle is parked in a position tilted to one side with the kickstand set down.

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11. (Withdrawn) The storage box arrangement for use in a motorcycle according to claim 5, wherein the seat comprises a seat bottom plate having a side wall which is extensionally formed at sides with respect to the vehicle's width, spreading outwardly as it extends downwards, and the storage box is constructed such that the opening edge on the first side with respect to the vehicle's width is adapted to abut the bottom wall of the seat bottom plate and abut the lower end of the seat bottom plate sidewall while the opening edge on the other side is made to abut the bottom wall of the seat bottom plate.

12. (Withdrawn) The storage box arrangement for use in a motorcycle according to claim 6, wherein the seat which can be opened upward and closed comprises a seat bottom plate having a side wall which is extensionally formed at sides with respect to the vehicle's width, spreading outwardly as it extends downwards, and the storage box is constructed such that the opening edge on the first side with respect to the vehicle's width is adapted to abut the bottom wall of the seat bottom plate and abut the lower end of the seat bottom plate side-wall while the opening edge on the other side is made to abut the bottom wall of the seat bottom plate.

13. (New) A motorcycle comprising:
a motorcycle body comprising a frame and footboards;
a seat, arranged substantially at a rear of the body, the seat comprising a seat bottom plate;
a storage box having an upper opening which is opened and closed by the seat and which is able to hold helmets;
a seat bottom plate extension integrally formed with the seat bottom plate, the seat bottom plate extension being extensionally formed along an outer periphery, spreading outwardly toward its distal side;
a sealing element disposed between an upper opening brim of the storage box and the seat bottom plate extension;

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a cover arranged over the outer peripheral surface of the seat bottom plate extension so as to externally enclose an upper part of the storage box having the sealing element disposed thereon and the seat bottom plate extension;

wherein the storage box has a volume capable of storing at least two helmets and is shaped into a storage compartment which can keep the two helmets placed side by side across the a vehicle width with spherical tops of the helmets set laterally outward with respect to the vehicle width, lower sides of the helmets abutting each other, and fronts of the helmets being oriented forwardly with respect to a direction of-travel, the storage box having an inner shape congruent with outer shapes of the helmets thus arranged; and

the storage box being arranged so that an extra rider, riding astride above the storage box, is seated with ankles positioned on the floorboard and at a front side of the helmets.

14. (New) The motorcycle according to claim 13, wherein the seat further comprises:

a seat cushion for covering the top of the seat bottom plate; and,
a seat cloth for covering the surface of the seat cushion;

15. (New) The motorcycle according to claim 14, wherein the seat is integrally formed with a rib-like structure, projected outwards from the seat bottom plate and disposed along the outer periphery of the seat cushion around the seat bottom plate extension and the rib-like structure together with the seat cushion is covered by the seat cloth with the distal part of the seat cloth fixed by fasteners.

16. (New) The motorcycle according to claim 14, wherein the storage box is constructed in such a manner that two helmets can be held side by side across the vehicle width with spherical tops inclined downwards and laterally outward with respect to the vehicle width.

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